

organises the demoralised troops, and carries everybody with good heart against the common enemy. This is what must be done in Tradeston. I have no desire to blame anybody, but it is an open secret that the Liberal party in the division has fallen into some such position as I have described. This thing will not do. The Liberal cause must be rescued from petty strife, and the seat must be carried for progress against reaction, for Ireland against another generation of coercion, with its concomitants, outrage and disorder.

Do not suppose for a moment that I have any desire or intention to discredit either party. I feel that at this stage that an honourable compromise might be arrived at between the two parties. I am heart and soul with the Liberals. I am heart and soul with the working men. I believe firmly that, for the reason I have mentioned, the people will get what they need from the Legislature more quickly and surely, and certainly more sympathetically and less grudgingly, through the Liberal party than through the Tories; therefore, while there is opportunity for consideration before embarking upon a policy which would have far-reaching consequences, I wish to put plainly before you the inexpediency of attempting, at any rate at this election, to form an independent labour party.

The sake of Ireland demands this sacrifice, and it is worth the sacrifice, which is no sacrifice, but a plain question of order. Where two cannot go abreast, one must go behind. While I think that this sacrifice may fairly be asked of the labour party, a sacrifice must be asked on the other side. The questions which must come after the Irish question are largely social and labour questions. By social questions, I mean temperance and cognate questions; by labour questions, I mean the hours of labour, the mode of dealing with labour